

KID PARKER, ONCE GREAT FIGHTER, IS NOW INSANE

Former Lightweight Who Gave Every Promise of Being a Champion Has Completely Lost His Mind.

By Otto Floto, in the K. C. Post.

Mike Brady, the famous sign painter and cross country trotter, called on Kid Parker, the former lightweight, who is confined in the Norfolk asylum for the insane in Nebraska. It will pain many who used to sit in the arena of the Colorado Athletic club in Denver and watch this great fighter perform, to learn where he is. I am candidly of the opinion that Kid Parker was one of the greatest lightweights that ever lived. Had he been given the opportunity to battle Frank Erne when the latter was champion the name of Kid Parker would go down in history. Erne absolutely refused to meet him. It is awful to think of his end. Here is what Brady writes:

"I went up to Norfolk, Neb., yesterday and visited Kid Parker at the asylum. I found him in a padded cell, punching the wall to beat the band, until he was so tired he fell down. He looked at me but did not know me until I told him who I was. Then he hollered at me, 'Tell Floto I'm the champion. I will fight Joe Gans or Battling Nelson. Tell Floto to get Johnny Mosconi to train me and make the match.' He keeps that up by the hour and the attendants tell me 'he calls for Floto and Johnny Mosconi all the time.' Poor fellow,

he will never come out of that cell alive.

"They have given him some boxing gloves to keep him from breaking his hands or hurting himself. If his Denver friends could see him now they would not know him. It actually brought tears to my eyes. When I think of the thousands that used to flock to see him fight and realize now that no one ever comes to see him (the attendant told me I was the first man in a year that had called on him) it makes me think how soon we are forgotten. If any of the Denver people should happen that way it wouldn't hurt to call in and see the old champion. They would, just like me, pity the poor old Kid Parker they used to know. He doesn't seem to have a friend in the wide, wide world."

It is a sad finish for one that promised so much. When we look back on his past few of us realized that he was becoming unbalanced. Yet when he started in on that vegetable diet and refused to eat for 3 days at a time we should have known something was wrong. Then he got hold of a "bug" as his trainer, and his manager was crazy all the time, which all helped to make matters worse. Whatever has become of Edwards no one seems to know. The pity of it all is that Parker, one of the greatest fighters of his day, is forced to finish his days in an insane asylum. Wonder if something could not be done for him to make his last days hours of comfort and bring a little sunshine into his life.

I am ready to do my share and help along.

The Kid Parker referred to above is a son of Frank Parker, an early day resident of Ellinwood. Frank Parker, although residing at the time in Ellinwood, was, in the spring of 1885, operating a pool room in this city, in the old building standing on the corner where the Wagaman store is now, in the McBride building. A friendless colored man, whom he had taken in, murdered him with an ax one Saturday night, the deed being discovered the next morning when his son, Frank, Jr., came up from Ellinwood to pay him a visit. He could not find his father, but in company with the late James Savage, entered the building, the father having a bed room in the rear, and discovered the murder. Suspicion at once fastened itself on the colored man, who was apprehended that evening as he was stepping from the train in Kansas City, boldly carrying Parker's watch and jewelry. He was brought back by Sheriff Daziel, who took him from the evening train east of town, thinking he would escape a mob that had been formed, but the latter were not to be outwitted and they at once went down east and got the man. With a rope around his neck, the other end around a saddle horn, they started for town, going to the square, and, as we remember it, later pulling what was left of the man up on the rafters of the awning in front of the building in which the murder was committed. The Parkers left Ellinwood about 1889.

PUBLIC SALE.

Claud Johnson called here this week to secure some sale bills for a big public sale he will hold, six miles north and one-half mile east of Great Bend, June 27. This will be about the last sale to be held before harvest, and an excellent opportunity for those who desire to secure some bargains. See the bills and don't forget the date.

Martin Weirauch has gone east to attend the Republican convention, and to visit the old home near Lewistown, Ill.

Ben Karst and George Barrows were down from Galatia Tuesday on a business deal. Mr. Karst is purchasing that part of Barrow's quarter at Galatia on which the house is located, and leasing the balance of the land for a term of ten years.

George Houchin and one of the Bryant boys were down from Galatia on Tuesday.

John Heeter was a visitor from Hoxington Tuesday.

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Geo. L. Bessler

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Here are Some of the Bargains	Hemker's Price	SALE PRICE
Dutchess Kettles, 5 quart, with covers	\$ 65	.35
Dutchess Kettles, 6 quart, with covers	75	.40
Dutchess Kettles, 8 quart, with covers	85	.45
Dutchess Kettles, 10 quart, with covers	1 00	.60
Covered Buckets, 3 quart, with covers	45	.30
Covered Buckets, 4 quart, with covers	60	.35
Double Cookers, regular pattern, 2 quart	1 10	.65
Double Cookers, regular pattern, 3 quart	1 25	.75
Double Cookers, fancy pattern, 2 quart	1 35	.85
Double Cookers, fancy pattern, 3 quart	1 50	1.00
Sauce Pans, 3 quart	40	.25
Preserving Kettles, 3 quart	40	.25
Preserving Kettles, 8 quart	75	.50
Dish Pans, large, 21 quart	1 35	.85
Convex Saucepans, 8 quart, covered	75	.45
Pudding Pans, 4 quart	30	.15
Basting Spoons, large	10	.05

Many other items, too. These are all good, every day sizes that you need and can use. Let us tie it up for you now.

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WAGAMAN

Great Bend's Fashionable Clothier and Hatter

WHY HODGES SHOULD BE NOMINATED.

Some weeks ago we published the platform on which Senator Hodges is making his race for the Democratic nomination for Governor. Later we published the platform of Mr. Billard, and in next issue we present the platform of Mr. Jackson, the third candidate. Our readers can, therefore, judge for themselves which of the candidates they wish to support. As for ourselves, we believe the fair and honorable thing to do is for Kansas Democrats to nominate George Hodges. Here are our reasons:

The mainspring of the Billard candidacy is his stand in favor of resubmission. This is, no doubt, a popular stand with many of our readers and Barton county friends, but is nothing new. Although not explicitly providing for resubmission in our platforms in the past six years, we have provided for the initiative and referendum, and that is the only way resubmission of the prohibitory amendment can be obtained. The election of Mayor Billard will not give it to us unless the legislature votes that way. If we elect a legislature that is pledged to the initiative and referendum, we can secure the same result sought in the Billard candidacy, as if he was elected. Again, we call your attention to the growth of the Democratic party since we eliminated this question, which is not a political one, and which should be eliminated from the campaign. This is not the time nor the campaign in which to entangle the Democrats of Kansas in that issue. We make the point that with that issue as one of our paramount issues, we are a defeated set. Look at the history of the last six years. As temporary chairman of the convention in 1906, we nominated Sena-

tor Harris for governor. Senator Hodges, now a candidate for governor, declared in favor of the enforcement of all laws. This was at the expiration of Hoch's first term, when the prohibitory law was laxly enforced. The platform at that time declared in the same language, and David Overmyer, in that campaign our candidate for Attorney General, declared the same way. What was the result? We thereby divorced ourselves from this question as a political one, and in the campaign that followed, Senator Harris, all over this state, stood by the platform and said it meant just what the cold type made it say, and that it would be stood by. Hoch, who had been elect-

ed by an overwhelming majority two years before, was sent back with a paltry 1,900. In the legislature of 1905, the Democrats had 17 members, in the lower house, but following the Harris campaign we had 30. In February, 1908, Senator Hodges, as the President of the Kansas Democratic Banquet Club, reiterated the stand previously taken. In the 1908 campaign the Democrats made the same stand that they did in 1906. The stand of the party on this question has remained unchanged until now, and each year we have grown. In the sessions of 1909 we had 42 members, and in 1911 we had 52. We are in favor, teeth and toe nail, of resubmitting this question, but we can-

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